I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Attorney Docket No.: 15389-002950US Client Reference No.: 18/206P2

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

on March go, 499

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Marcia Jamas



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner:

Toni R. Scheiner, Esq.

Art Unit:

1643

PETITION TO EXTEND TIME

In re application of:

Cech et al.

Application No.: 08/974,584

Filed: November 19, 1997

For: TELOMERASE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants petition the Assistant Commissioner of Patents to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated September 30, 1998 for five (5) months, from October 30, 1998 to March 30, 1999. An appropriate response to the Election/Restriction Requirement Office Action in the form of a Response to Restriction Requirement is enclosed herewith.

04/08/1999 MBLANCO

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Cech et al.

Application No.: 08/974,584

Page 2

Please charge the fee of \$1,850 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-

1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above deposit account.

This petition is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory P. Einhorn Reg. No. 38,440

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 telephone (415) 576-0200 fax (415) 576-0300 email gpeinhorn@townsend.com

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